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4			
5			
6			
FROM		INITIALS	DATE
1	Ch/St/CS		10 Feb 59
2			
3			

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Approved For Release 2001/08/27 : CIA-RDP70T00666R000100090024-0

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

to : Assistant Director, Research & Reports DATE: 10 February 1959
THRU : Chief, Economic Research Area, ORR
FROM : Chief, Current Support Staff, ORR

SUBJECT: Reorganization and Relocation of General Studies-3

I. This memorandum is in response to the direction of Chief, Economic Research Area that the author participate in a group visit and briefing on 19 and 20 January 1959, at Air Force Security Service (AFSS) Headquarters and Special Center (AFSS-SC). The author was requested to report on the possible effects on the ERA of the concurrent transfer of a part of NSA, General Studies-3 (GENS-3) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] from NSA (Fort Meade) to Air Force control (Kelly Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas) where it is being integrated into the AFSS-SC. The visit consisted of about 11 hours of briefing, a one and one-half hour tour of the Special Center, and a two hour question and answer period with Security Service component officials. Schedules of the briefings and tour are attached.

II. Conclusions

Tentative conclusions on the effect on the ERA of the transfer of control and location of GENS-3 are as follows:

A. These moves are of questionable value to the national intercept effort.

B. These moves, at best, are of questionable value in improving the direct support rendered by GENS-3 to the ERA on specific problems.

C. Current spot COMINT reporting [REDACTED] will probably not be affected by these moves. OCI personnel have, however, expressed fear that the GENS-3 ability to provide timely support to current intelligence production [REDACTED] will decline.

D. Current spot COMINT reporting on [REDACTED] problems could be reduced by a third change in the COMINT community.

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III. Recommendation

A. The quality, quantity, and timeliness of both GENS-3 support to the ERA and spot reporting, especially on [REDACTED] problems, should be carefully monitored. Such monitoring is required in order to be able to judge the future performance of GENS-3 and the Air Force role as a collector of COMINT.

B. Should AFSS offer to reschedule the 19-20 January briefing, attendance by senior ERA and ORR officials is recommended. The briefing--apparently a "canned" review for visiting dignitaries--is an excellent summation of almost all aspects of a COMINT effort. While it is educational for participants at the analyst level, it could be of greater value to persons dealing with the policy and administrative problems of the COMINT program.

IV. Discussion

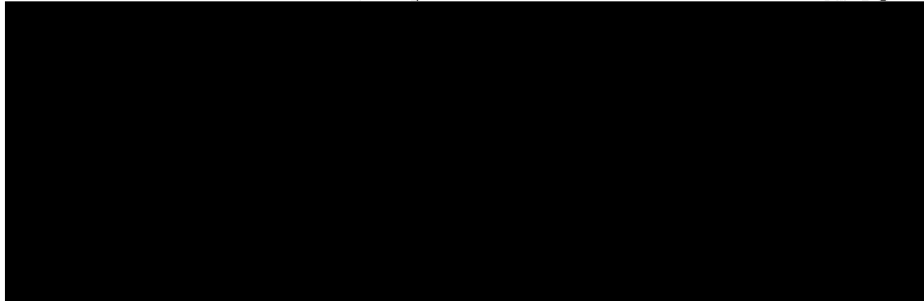
A. Nature and extent of the reorganization:

1. Under the reorganization GENS-3 will be divided into two units, GENS-3M, at Fort Meade, and GENS-3K at Kelly Air Force Base. GENS-3K will be located with the Headquarters of AFSS and integrated into its Special Center. GENS-3K will be the larger, apparently by considerable degree, of the two units, will have mostly military personnel, and will hold the basic and detailed records. GENS-3M believes that it will do "detailed analysis" but GENS-3K, which will be the parent unit and is proximate to the command, believes that GENS-3M will be primarily a liaison office. As of the briefing, the move was still in progress and somewhat delayed because of such problems as the incompatibility of the NSA machine records system with the UNIVAC system at Kelly Air Force Base. No experienced civilian analytical personnel have yet made the move to Texas and apparently most will not.

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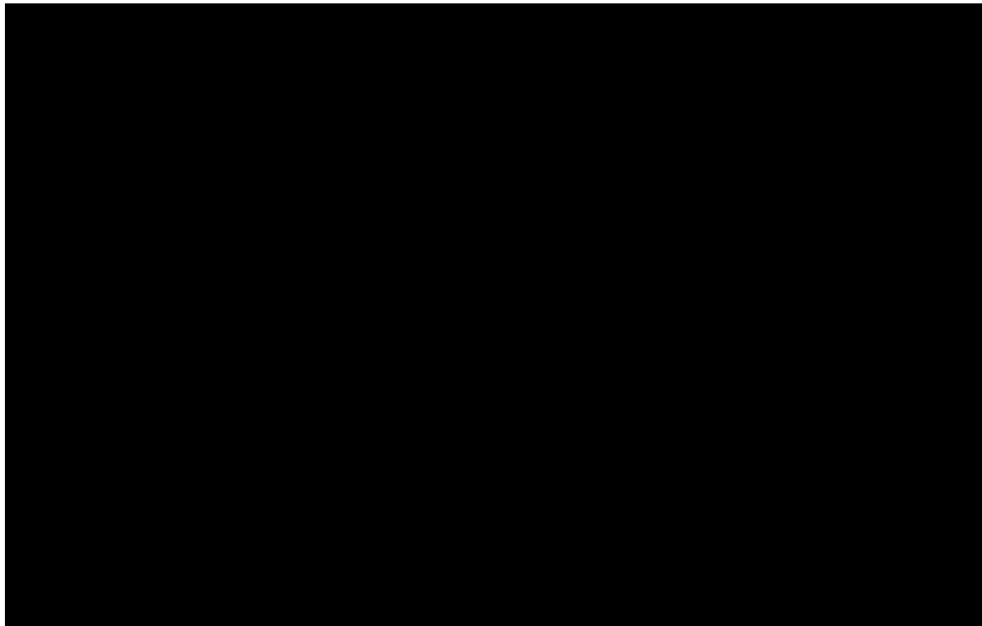
2. A third part of the reorganization modifies the collection responsibilities of the various service cryptologic agencies. AFSS has had, heretofore, the prime mission of establishing, manning, maintaining, and operating the intercept positions under Air Force



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B. Reasons for questioning the value of the changes to the national intercept effort:



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2. The changes could result in less efficient handling of the [redacted] problems newly assigned to AFSS. AFSS is obviously less interested in these problems and has little experience in the field.

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- 3 -

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3. The new GENS-3 could become far more subject to Air Force attitude and influence than was the old organization. In turn, because of the closer relationship, AFSS operation of its intercept positions may be far more responsive to GENS-3 problems. It is difficult, however, to see how this closer relationship will aid solutions [REDACTED] problems by AFSS intercept positions.

C. Reasons for questioning the value of the changes in improving GENS-3 fulfillment of ERA requirements:

The ERA requirement channels will continue to be through OCI to NSA to GENS-3M to GENS-3K. The move, consequently, could make understanding of an ERA requirement more difficult for the persons who will do the basic work of answering it. Further, at the time of the briefing, analyst-to-analyst contact was all but precluded despite the invited presence of ERA analysts at the AFSS Headquarters. Intervention by the Deputy Commander of AFSS was apparently required to obtain the little contact which did occur. The change, also, could make GENS-3K more responsive to Air Force--as opposed to other consumer--requirements than was the old GENS-3.

D. Current spot COMINT reporting on [REDACTED] problems will probably not be effected by this change. Such reporting is generally originated in the actual intercept station or at an overseas headquarters or consolidation point. Initial collation and consolidation within the US occurs in the Air Force Security Service Office of Production (AFSSOP) which will apparently remain essentially undisturbed at Fort Meade.

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- 4 -

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E. Current [REDACTED] spot COMINT reporting could suffer. AFSS had apparently, as of the briefing, not yet begun even to plan the necessary training for and technical support of the AFSS intercept operators to be assigned to [REDACTED] positions.

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Distribution:

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Enclosure:

Schedule of Briefing and Tour

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ORR/St/CS [REDACTED] :ji/X-4555(10 February 59)

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**SCHEDULE OF AIR FORCE SECURITY SERVICE-SPECIAL CENTER BRIEFING & TOUR
KELLY AIR FORCE BASE, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

19 January 1959

These briefings were largely devoted to the role of Air Force Security Service at the intercept position and station level.

- 0900 - 0905 - Opening Remarks - Major General J. Ackerman
- 0905 - 0915 - Role of Air Force Security Service Operations
- 0915 - 0930 - Consumer Requirements
- 0930 - 1000 - Mission and Deployment (of intercept facilities)
- 1015 - 1100 - Methods and Procedures (of intercept operations)
- 1100 - 1115 - Communications System (between intercept stations and United States consumers)
- 1115 - 1130 - Equipments System (of intercept and communication facilities)
- 1300 - 1330 - End Product Reporting (internal Air Force Security Service information flow)
- 1330 - 1340 - Cover and Deception (by United States Air Force communications users)
- 1340 - 1400 - Construction (of intercept stations and facilities)
- 1400 - 1420 - Personnel (mostly of intercept stations)
- 1435 - 1450 - Future Developments (electronic and communications theory)
- 1450 - 1500 - Customer Relations
- 1500 - Questions

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20 January 1959

These briefings concerned the so-called third echelon--within the continental United States--processing of intercept and the integration of GENS-3 by Air Force Security Service.

0830 - 0930 - General Briefing (organization of Air Force Security Service-Special Center)

0945 - 1000 - Visit to SCT-1 (allocation of intercept targets, technical review of field procedure, technical guidance to field)

1000 - 1015 -

1015 - 1030 -

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1030 - 1045 - SCM (Basic Records, IBM, and UNIVAC maintained)

1045 - 1100 - SCE (RADINT, and ELINT technical evaluation and support; integration of RADINT and ELINT with COMINT)

1100 - 1115 - SCR (publications, editorial, printing and distribution)

1300 - 1500 - Questions and Answers

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